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PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

UNITED STATES.

Vaccination certificates issued to emigrants for the Canal Zone.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Smith reports as follows:

As directed in Bureau circular letter of the 5th instant, I have the honor to report that 5 vaccination certificates were issued at this station during the month of October to emigrants destined for the Isthmian Canal Zone, vaccination being done in each case.

Smallpox in St. Louis—Comparison with previous years.

Assistant Health Commissioner Francis reports, November 7, as follows:

I give you the statistics for six years for the first seven months of our fiscal year:

Year.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
1899 Cases	27	29	19	0	0	0	0
1899 Deaths	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1900 Cases	26	12	11	4	0	4	2
1900 Deaths	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
1901 Cases	103	127	138	40	1	7	58
1901 Deaths	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
1902 Cases	199	179	83	55	23	7	19
1902 Deaths	4	0	3	0	0	0	0
1903 Cases	27	41	30	13	11	3	4
1903 Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1904 Cases	56	52	40	15	11	31	55
1904 Deaths	2	6	1	3	1	4	13

Transactions on account of yellow fever at Laredo, Tex.

Reports from Laredo, Tex.—Mortuary statistics of 1904—Comparison with previous years of October death rate.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Frick reports November 7 as follows:

The mortuary report of the city of Laredo, Tex., for the year of 1904 is herewith transmitted. I also have the honor to transmit a comparative mortuary report of the years of 1901, 1902, 1903, and 1904, from which but one conclusion can be drawn, and that is that the work done by the Service in Laredo during the period from September 25, 1903, to September 20, 1904, not only prevented a recurrence of yellow fever, though there were 2 sporadic cases in this section during

the month of March, 1904, with conditions and weather both favorable to a spread of same, but there was also an improvement in the general health, as well as a large decrease in the death rate over previous years, which the report will show.

Mortuary report for October, 1904.

Tuberculosis, pulmonary.....	2	Hereditary syphilis.....	1
Still birth.....	4	Asthenia.....	1
Lung trouble.....	1	Old age.....	1
Cause unknown (had no doctor).....	5	Congestion of the lungs.....	1
Meningitis.....	1	Enterogastritis.....	1
Pneumonia.....	1	Tetanus.....	1
Inanition.....	1	Parturition.....	1
Thyroiditis.....	1	Number of deaths.....	24
Premature birth.....	1		

Mortality rate, 21.04.

Comparative mortuary report of the city of Laredo, Tex., for the years 1901, 1902, 1903, and 1904, during the month of October.

Year.	Number of deaths.	Rate.	Remarks.
1901.....	36	32.16	
1902.....	58	51.68	
1903.....	28	22.04	Deaths from yellow fever not included.
1903.....	28	33.60	Estimated on a decrease of about 3,500 in population, it being presumed that this number was absent from the city during this month.
1903.....	81	72.38	Deaths from all causes included.
1904.....	24	21.04	

P. S.—I neglected to state a more marked improvement is shown by a comparison of the summer months up to and including September, when the Service discontinued active operations, September 20, 1904.

The most marked decrease has been in gastro-intestinal troubles and deaths therefrom, as well as deaths from phthisis. Will this favorable condition continue to prevail? October comparison, while favorable in itself, does not indicate so.

Report from San Antonio—Sanitary conditions.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Purnell reports, November 12, as follows:

Conditions, from a health standpoint, remain unchanged since my last report. A slight norther has prevailed during the past two days and the temperature dropped to the frost line, but to-day the thermometer is rising again. The prevalence of no special disease is noted and the general conditions in health matters are good.

INSPECTION SERVICE, MEXICAN BORDER.

Inspection at Nogales, Ariz.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Gustetter reports as follows:

Week ended November 5, 1904: Passengers inspected, 182; immigrants inspected, 52; immigrants deported, 8—blind 1, insane 1, non-medical reasons 6.